

Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8379

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 04031

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, TECH, PEPR, CH, CA

SUBJECT: STUDY ABROAD BY PRC STUDENTS

REF: (A) PEKING 2316, (B) STOCKHOLM 042
(C) THE HAGUE 4472

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1. SUMMARY: OTTAWA IS CONSIDERING CHINESE REQUEST FOR
TRAINING 500 STUDENTS IN CANADA, IN CONTEXT OF CURRENT
PRC INITIATIVE TO TRAIN THOUSANDS OF YOUNG CHINESE IN
WEST. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE MECHANICS IS JUST BEGIN-
NING BUT DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS VIEWS PROPOSAL
FAVORABLY IN PRINCIPLE. END SUMMARY.

2. J.A.WHITTLETON, DIRECTOR OF NORTHEAST ASIAN DIVISION
IN EXTAFF, CONFIRMS CANADIAN RECEIPT IN EARLY
AUGUST OF CHINESE REQUEST THAT CANADA PROVIDE TRAINING AT
CHINA'S EXPENSE FOR 500 CHINESE STUDENTS AT UNDERGRADUATE,
GRADUATE AND POST-DOCTORAL LEVELS. CANADA "IN PRINCIPLE
WILL FAVORABLY CONSIDER" REQUEST, THOUGH EXTAFF IS JUST
BEGINNING TO EXAMINE MECHANICS WHICH WOULD BE NECESSARY,
AND FORMAL RESPONSE IS NOT EXPECTED FOR SOME TIME. PROBLEM
IS COMPLICATED FOR CANADA SINCE EDUCATION IS PROVINCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY.

3. CHINESE INFORMED CANADA THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO
EXPAND PRESENT AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR STUDY BY 25 STUDENTS
FROM EACH COUNTRY IN THE OTHER. EXTAFF SOURCES INDICATE
THIS OFFER IS NOT LIKELY TO BE TAKEN UP, SINCE DEMAND HAS
BEEN SLACK FOR EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDY IN CHINA
AND FUNDS WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE TO COVER AIR FARE FOR
LARGER CANADIAN GROUP IN ANY CASE

4. CANADIANS HAVE FOLLOWING FIGURES ON NUMBERS OF CHINESE
STUDENT SPACES CONCURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION IN OTHER
COUNTRIES INDICATED:

CANADA 500
WEST GERMANY 500
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JAPAN 500
FRANCE 500
UK 1200
AUSTRALIA 100
NEW ZEALAND PERHAPS 25
SWEDEN 200-500
ROMANIA 500
YUGOSLAVIA 500

THEY UNDERSTAND SPACES ARE ALSO BEING SOUGHT IN U.S.,
BELGIUM, AUSTRIA, ITALY AND NETHERLANDS.

5. CANADIANS HAVE IMPRESSION THAT,IN ATTEMPTING TO
IMPLEMENT RAPIDLY HIGH-LEVEL PRC DECISION FOR MASSIVE
INCREASE IN FOREIGN TRAINING, CHINESE HAVE APPROACHED
FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS IN HASTE, SETTING ARBITRARY FIGURES
AND WITHOUT DOING MUCH PRELIMINARY HOMEWORK.

6. THERE ARE TWO CANADIAN PRECEDENTS FOR FACILITATING
ENROLLMENT OF LARGE GROUPS OF FOREIGN STUDENTS IN CANADA.
UNDER PROGRAM BEGINNING THIS FALL UNDER GOVERNMENT-TO-
GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT, CANADIAN CONTRACTOR IS HANDLING

PLACEMENT OF 500 NIGERIAN STUDENTS IN CANADA, PRIMARILY
IN TECHNICAL TRAINING, AT NIGERIAN EXPENSE. SIMILAR
VENEZUELAN PROGRAM, PRIVATELY ADMINISTERED THROUGH
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IS CON-
SIDERED TO HAVE BEEN LESS SUCCESSFUL. NIGERIAN ARRANGEMENT
APPEARS MOSTLIKELY MODEL FOR CHINESE PROGRAM.

7. TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL'S PEKING CORRESPONDENT,
JOHN FRASER, HAS REPORTED CHINESE INITIATIVE AND PAPER
FOLLOWED UP WITH EDITORIAL URGING FAVORABLE CANADIAN
RESPONSE. ENDERS

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